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reveals a long, loving, and intimate association with the best Latin masters, which, when combined with sound critical sense, commends their literary judgments.

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GEORGE DWIGHT KELLOGG.

Thucydides, Book IV, Chapters I-XLI (Pylus and Sphacteria). Edited by J. H. E. Crees and J. C. Wordsworth. Cambridge: at the University Press (1919). Pp. xvi + 96.

In a brief Preface it is stated that this edition has been prepared for those who have not long been studying Greek and who have reached the stage of the "First School Examination". A vocabulary has therefore been added (72-96). The book contains also a map of Pylus and Sphacteria. The Introduction (ix-xv) deals with the life and work of Thucydides and the contents of his history, Book IV, Chapters I-XLI. Mr. Crees, author of the Introduction, writes enthusiastically of Thucydides as a historian. Thucydides's history, he says, "would at any time have been a great work, but for its date it is in its conception a marvellous achievement, and the expression of a person lity which compels respect". Thucydides necessarily, as a true Athenian, was a partisan, but he was none the less able to efface his partisanship and "achieved a monumental impartiality". Thucydides, the aristocrat, is so fair to Cleon that "the champions of Cleon must, and can base their championship on the evidence of Thucydides". There are 38 pages of notes to 33 of the Greek text. Yet, I suspect, in more than one place, the student who has not "long been studying Greek" would need more assistance than the authors give him toward the interpretation of the text. C. K.

A NOTE ON THE RED RAIN IN ILIAD 16.459

While listening recently to some lectures of Professor David M. Robinson on Homer, I was led to ask: Are the following passages of the Iliad merely the product of the poet's imagination or do they refer to real natural phenomena?

In Iliad 16.459 we read¹

She spoke nor did the sire of Gods and men
Unheeding hear, but poured down on the earth
Rain drops of blood, so honoring his dear son,
Him whom Patroclus was foredoomed to slay
In Troy's rich soil far from his native land.

In Iliad 11.54 we read:

Zeus roused an evil blare of war and sent
Down from high heaven his rain drops stained with
blood.

Again in Hesiod, Shield of Heracles 383-385, in a passage perhaps imitated from the above, we have:

Loud thundered Zeus, the counselor, flinging down
From heaven bloody rain drops, setting thus
A sign of battle to his great-souled son.

¹The translations are my own. So are the italics in the passages quoted.

In short, is there such a thing as red rain, apart from the effluvia of butterflies as suggested by Buchholz, Die Homerische Realien, 3.91, and is Homer justified in the use he makes of it? That there is and that Homer is better acquainted with and truer to nature than some of his critics is shown by the following note appended to certain verses of John Ruskin's Poem, The Broken Chain (Geo. Allen, Library Edition of John Ruskin, 2.177 [1903]). The verses are:

Like purple-rain at evening shed
On Sestri's cedar-darkened shore.

The note runs thus:

I never saw such a thing but once, on the mountains of Sestri in the Gulf of Genoa. The whole western half of the sky was one intense amber colour, the air crystalline and cloudless, the other half grey with drifting showers. At the instant of sunset, the whole mass of *rain* turned of a deep rose-colour, the consequent rainbow being not varied with the seven colours, but one broad belt of paler rose; the other tints being so delicate as to be overwhelmed by the crimson of the rain.

I have myself witnessed red rain in Chatham, Massachusetts, over Nantucket Sound. When one lives in the country and on the sea year in and year out, one acquires a wholesome respect for the observing powers of the classical poets, notably Homer. The phenomenon occurred at sunset, with drifting curtains of rain between the observer and the sun. These the red rays of the sinking orb shot through and through with deep crimson that faded and revived as the curtains of rain fell and succeeded one another. There was no rainbow, as the rain was between the observer and the sun, for one always sees a rainbow when he is between the rain and the sun (or the moon, in the case of a lunar rainbow, which is very rare), and of course the luminary cannot be very high in the heavens in either case.

Given such a phenomenon, Homer's application is obvious and justified, as the following quotations from Byron, Sardanapalus, and Turner, Fallacies of Hope, prove. In Byron, the Chaldean priest says of the sinking sun:

How *red* he glares amidst those deepening clouds,
Like the *blood he predicts*.

Turner's lines were over a picture of The Fall of Carthage:

While o'er the western wave the *ensanguined sun*
Is gathering huge a stormy signal spread,
And set *portentous*.

ROGERS FELLOW IN CLASSICS,
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CAROL WIGHT.

CICERO, CATILINAM 2.4, ITERUM

Utinam ille omnis secum suas copias eduxisset! Tongilium mihi eduxit, quem amare in praetexta coeperat; Publicium et Minucium, quorum aes alienum contractum in popina nullum rei publicae motum afferre poterat, reliquit. Quos viros! quanto aere alieno! quam valentis! quam nobilis!

Until Professor Herrouet endeavored, in THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY 14. 87, to refute my punctuation

of this passage (THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY II. 96), it never occurred to me that any one could fail to see the irony in the words *quanto aere alieno! quam valentis! quam nobilis!* I see, however, that Professor D'Ooge, in his note on *Publicium et Minucium*, says, "The orator mentions them in contrast with the conspirators of high rank that had remained in the city", and that, in the edition by Messrs. Roberts and Rolfe, the note on the same passage reads "Their great debts and consequent desperation are contrasted with the comparative harmlessness of Publicius and Minucius". Professor Bennett, on the other hand, says, "Ironical. The orator really means *how worthless, how low*".

The tenor of the whole oration maintains this idea of contempt for those who sympathize with Catiline morally, but are too weak to follow him. I quote, in conclusion, a few expressions of this thought that occur in Sections 5-11 (many others equally strong and unmistakable are found later):

Itaque ego illum exercitum . . . magnopere contemno. . . . Hos, quos video volitare in Foro, quos stare ad Curiam, quos etiam in Senatum venire, qui nitent unguentis, qui fulgent purpura, malle secum suos milites eduxisset. . . . O fortunatam rem publicam, si quidem hanc sentinam urbis eiecerit! . . . Hunc vero si secuti erunt sui comites, si ex urbe exierint desperatorum hominum flagitiosi greges, o nos beatos, o rem publicam fortunatam! . . . Patrimonia sua profuderunt, fortunas suas obligaverunt; res eos iam pridem deseruit, fides nuper deficere coepit . . . hoc vero quis ferre possit, inertes homines fortissimis viris insidiari, stultissimos prudentissimis, ebriosos sobriis, dormientis vigilantibus? . . . suscipio inimicitias hominum perditorum. . . . Proinde aut exeant aut quiescant, aut, si in urbe et in eadem mente permanent, ea quae merentur expectent.

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CLYDE R. JEFFORDS.

THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLE WEST AND SOUTH SOUTHERN SECTION

The first annual meeting of the Southern Section of The Classical Association of the Middle West and South was held in Columbia, South Carolina, February 24-26 (see THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY 14.104). The programme was as follows:

Address of Welcome, W. S. Currell, President, University of South Carolina; Response for the Association, Professor George Howe, University of North Carolina; Illustrated Lecture, Roumania, Youngest Daughter of Rome, Dr. Charles Upson Clark; Recent Inscriptional Literature, Professor G. A. Harter, University of North Carolina; Some Foreign Words Naturalized, Professor Alfred P. Hamilton, Millsaps College; Lucretius, A Religious Reformer, Professor E. W. Bowen, Randolph Macon College; Latin By Correspondence for High Schools, Professor G. F. Nicolassen, Oglethorpe University; Aristophanes the Modern, Professor Charles W. Peppler, Trinity College, Durham, North Carolina; The Classics at the University of South Carolina, Major J. F. J. Caldwell, Newberry, South Carolina; The Latest Words from Italy and the Balkans (illustrated lecture), Dr. Charles Upson Clark; Some Notes on Juvenal's Fifth Satire, Professor H. M. Poteat, Wake Forest College, Wake

Forest, North Carolina; Classical Authors in Their Use of Sources, Professor C. E. Boyd, Emory University, Georgia; Quiet Humor in Tibullus, Professor David M. Key, Millsaps College; The Place of Greek in Our Schools, Professor A. W. McWhorter, Hampton Sidney College, Virginia; General Literature and the Teacher of the Classics, Professor Josiah B. Game, Florida State College for Women; The School of Hellas, Mr. Fairfax Harrison, President, Southern Railroad; Buried Cities of Asia Minor (illustrated lecture), Professor David M. Robinson, The Johns Hopkins University; Two Empires, Professor W. D. Hooper, University of Georgia; The Revelation of Aeneas's Mission, Professor George Howe, University of North Carolina; Open Forum, High School Problems, conducted by Professor Josiah B. Game. C. K.

CLASSICAL CLUB OF GREATER BOSTON THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW ENGLAND, EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS SECTION

The Eastern Massachusetts Section of The Classical Association of New England held its fourteenth annual meeting, in conjunction with a meeting of The Classical Club of Greater Boston, at Harvard University, Saturday, February 12. The programme was as follows: A Word of Welcome, Rev. Willard Reed, President of the Classical Club of Greater Boston; The Latin Comprehensive Examination, Mr. Earl W. Taylor, Roxbury Latin School; An Experiment in Vocational Latin, Miss C. Carlotta Wiswall, Melrose High School; Latin and Dressmaking, Miss Grace W. Ripley; Latin and Salesmanship, Miss Grace T. Blanchard, High School of Practical Arts, Boston; Standardized Tests and the Teaching of Latin, Professor Alexander J. Inglis, Harvard University; Lantern Talk, Excavating in the Sudan, Mr. Dows Dunham, Assistant Curator of Egyptian Art, Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

ALBERT S. PERKINS, *Censor*.

CLASSICAL LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

The annual meeting of the Classical League of Philadelphia was held on Saturday, March 12, Miss Jessie E. Allen, of the Philadelphia High School for Girls, presiding. Routine business included among other things the reading of the Secretary's report. This reviewed briefly the year's activities, and demonstrated the League's vigor and strength. The meetings held during the year were more successful than any others in its history. The membership is now 133—all professional classicists. One enthusiastic member suggested that it is the strongest local association of professional classicists in America. Letters were read from two members of the League who are spending the year at the American Academy in Rome—Professor Walton Brooks McDaniel, of the University of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Ethel Chubb, of the Philadelphia High School for Girls. Officers for the coming year were elected as follows: President, Dr. Richard M. Gummere, Headmaster of the William Penn Charter School; Vice-President, Dr. Bessie R. Burchett, of the South Philadelphia High School for Girls; Treasurer, Gertrude Bricker, of the West Philadelphia High School for Girls; Secretary, Arthur W. Howes, of the Central High School.

The intellectual feature of the meeting was an illustrated talk on The Appeal of Greek Sculpture, by Dr. Rhys Carpenter, Professor of Classical Archaeology in Bryn Mawr College. Dr. Carpenter set forth with convincing force and copious illustrations the essential characteristics and inner meaning of the successive schools of Greek sculpture.

ARTHUR W. HOWES, *Secretary*.